

NBC and the
NBC Network

April 25, 1961

PROGRAM NBC News

DATE April 25, 1961, 7:00 P.M.

OFFICIAL DEFENDS CIA

EDWIN NEWMAN: "President Kennedy today continued to collect the support of prominent Americans for his future plans in Cuba, though there is as yet no clear word on what those plans will be. Governor Rockefeller of New York was at the White House and said it was time for all Americans to stand behind the President in whatever action is necessary to defend freedom. Vice President Johnson flew to Independence, Missouri to see former President Truman, and said he would take back to Mr. Kennedy strong pledges of support, and personal good will wishes from Mr. Truman. In Washington, many high officials, including the President, are calling in reporters for talks about Cuba, but not allowing their names to be connected with what they said. One of these officials today defended the CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, which has been accused of fumbling the operation in Cuba. This official said the CIA correctly reported the temper of the Cuban people and the military power of the Castro regime before President Kennedy authorized the invasion.

"In Havana itself, the newspapers have so far listed the names of more than 900 prisoners allegedly captured in the invasion."